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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1903.

Republic printed during the month of November, 1903, all in regular editions, was as per schedule below: (Sunday)....104,250 22 (Sunday)....109,540 (Sunday)....109,160 23102,230

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of copies returned and reported unsold during the month of November was 7.50 per cent. W. B. CARR. J. F. FARISH. Notary Public, City of St. Louis, Mo. My term expires April 25, 1905.

WORLD'S-1904-FAIR

FLOOD PROTECTION

A Board of Engineers appointed by the Secretary of War is in session in Kansas City preparing a plan for the prevention or control of floods, the details of which will be incorporated in a report. The principal purpose is to devise a system of levees which will protect the low-lying business district known as the West Bottoms from future Kansas and Missouri river floods.

The losses occasioned at the mouth of the Kaw last June reached a total of \$20,000,000. Railroad service on many of the most important railroads was absolutely crippled, a condition which meant serious commercial disadvantage in almost every section of the country.

The necessity for active steps toward preventing the recurrence of the disaster is apparent. The proposition commends itself to the intelligence of every resident of the Middle West. Only in the details of procedure or upon the claims of various localities may issue be taken.

East St. Louis and the manufacturing interests scattered through Granite City, Madison and Venice are menaced constantly by such an overflow as that of last spring. Levee protection there is as essential, and Government aid in the construction of an ample system of dikes should be given.

These are the two districts of this section of the country in which the greatest values are involved. The claim of the one is as legitimate as the claim of the other. In both are extensive interests and, working in harmony, they could bring a pressure to bear which would force Congress to take cognizance of the situation and to appropriate the needed funds. It is to be hoped that they will recognize that theirs is a common purpose and foin hands.

As has often been stated in The Republic, levee building and all river improvements should be made with a gigantic scheme in view of diking in and deepening the channels of all the Mississippi Valley waterways. It is time that such a scheme were assuming concrete shape and that a beginning were made upon the actual work. Of course, protection from floods is the immediate necessity; but it may be done in such manner as to be part of the greater object of deep-water engineering.

LIVING A LIE.

The chronicle of human experiences daily prepared by the newspapers ever present paradoxical facts concerning men and women which have in them psychological problems as absorbing as is a new equation to the mathematician. Not long since an Indiana reporter chronicled the death of a German woman who had lived twenty-five years at Eckery, known the while to all her neighbors and associates as a morose and eccentric old man. The disguise was perfect. No one suspected the truth

until in death the secret was accidentally disclosed. The incident illustrates the tendency to bury misdeeds or bumiliating failures by concealments, by a dropping out of wonted paths, by effacing identity, by arranging to be alone with a dismal retrospect, by securing the effect of suicide without committing the deed, by re-enacting each in his or her way the story of Doctor Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. The Indiana woman, it seems, had attained to some prominence in her youth in Germany. But she was publicly disgraced and she then contrived that her name be added to the long list of the "disappeared."

And it is not seldom that the hundred and one circumstances which tend to uncover a deception bring to light an instance of a dual existence. The creat world hates a secret. Many more things than murder will out-most of the time. But once in a while somebody does manage to shrink into a perfect isolation and does literally begin life anew, undisturbed save within the self by echoes from the former circle of activity.

As what sort of a grim joke this Indiana woman icust have regarded her surroundings? The neighborly lady across the way, perhaps, would proffer

needed a woman's helping hand. Every one who came in contact with her accepted her as a person very different from what she was, and yet she must constantly have been seeing them from her secret viewpoint. To all appearances, though lacking friends, she at least had associations. Still, she was conscious the while, since none knew of her personation, that she was among the few individuals on this globe who live absolutely alone in spirit.

Contemplation of such a life-chapter suggests th query: Could it have a solace, this perfect isolation? The answer must be always negative. The man or woman upon whom is imposed absolute loneliness sounds the very deeps of tragedy and experiences a living death. The shadow of a disgrace ! not thus escaped, but is magnified and becomes an ever-present "specter of the inner threshold." And yet this woman commands for herself a bated admiration since she lived the lie of lies and successfully masked herself and her sex.

SCANT CONSOLATION.

Directing the revolving light of political discussion to Missouri suggests a desire on the part of Eastern Republicans to throw darkness over some weak spots nearer home. If Republicanism in itown haunts and fastnesses isn't sufficiently strong to sustain hope, certainly there isn't much inspiration to be derived from the situation out here it this alien atmosphere.

Such consolation as it may find in Missouri, however, the Republican party is welcome to take. The politicians consist of a Babel-tongued rabble of factionalists, not one of whom has ever entertained a thought above the level of the ple-counter. They haven't half the interest in the State as a politica unit which is manifested, or feigned, as the case may be, by the Eastern gentlemen who are favoring

us with their attention. Not one of the local luminaries cares a rap about "carrying" Missouri; they don't even talk about it; such task invariably originates elsewhere. "Carrying" a city is the limit of their desire-and when they achieve it, as shown by the Republican behav lor during our boodle regime, it is almost equivalent to carrying the city off. Comparatively few of the people of St. Louis, or indeed of the State, would consent to intrust the affairs of government to the coterie of so-called Republicans who have at various times in the past few years demonstrated what they could do when they held city or State office. Judged by past conduct, Missouri Republican politicians when they aren't looting are wrangling.

And just now there are more factions and more internecine warfare than at any other time in the party's local history. Let a single one of our present Republican "leaders" rise up and declare a dignified purpose to work for the national party's ends in the State, and it will bring forty other leaders to their feet in derision and denunciation. That this kind of conduct, prolonged for years, has bred a deep and intense disgust and has largely dissipated party loyalty among the rank and file of Republic ans throughout the State is plain to any observer. Republican disloyalty is in the Missouri atmosphere Thousands of your good everyday Republican citizens are ever ready upon slight provocation to vote a Democratic ticket.

On the other hand, recent years have tended further to ingratiate Democracy with the people A low tax rate, economical government and wiping out State debts are facts which have strengthened the party. Mr. Folk in his speech at St. Joseph enumerated some of the facts which entitled the Democratic administration to credit and commended it to the people. Congressman Benton in a forcible presentation calls the public attention to these and other facts, and to some of the conditions which bespeak a certainty of Democratic success next year. To the Eastern gentlemen who express hope ful opinions of Republican success Benton gives apt reply.

Says he: "The talk about Republicans carrying Missouri is not based on any knowledge of conditions. It is true that majorities in recent years have been comparatively small, but there has been no incentive for all the voters to come out to the polls. so certain was Democratic supremacy. We have a full line of Democratic officials in seventy of the 114 counties of the State. In twenty more of the counties a part of the officials are Democrats.

"There was a Democratic majority of fifty on joint ballot in the last Legislature, both branches of which had a total of 177 members. We have now fifteen of the sixteen members of the National House from Missouri: twenty-four of the thirty-two Circuit Indees are Democrats

"It is claimed that an aggressive campaign might overcome our majority. The exact contrary is true The Republicans can make no effective argument against us. The tax rate in Missouri is about the lowest of any State in the Union-eighteen cents or \$100. A third of that goes for the School Fund. When we recovered the State from the Republicanthe tax rate was fifty cents and furthermore there was a debt of \$23,000,000 which has been wiped out during the Democratic regime, not to mention \$20. 000,000 or thereabouts of Interest."

A further fact should be borne in mind by the gentlemen who are looking for consolation in Missouri, which is that as between the parties Democ racy has all the best of the boodle argument. The Republican party has been the chief offender, if boo dle is to be made an issue, and the Democratic party has done all the prosecuting.

THE MEANS AT COMMAND.

The Interterritorial Ticket Committee, compris ing representatives of the railroad passenger asso ciations, has been considering the question of low railroad rates for the World's Fair. In connection with this question it has discussed what form o ticket would be the safest and most serviceable.

The granting of particularly low rates of fare will require the adoption of a special style of tick et, which would be nontransferable. The low rate would be a decided advantage to St. Louis, to the World's Fair and to the people in all parts of the country who desire to come here next year. With the rates low thousands will visit the city-and they could not and would not otherwise do so. The condition that special tickets shall be neutransferable is intended as a protection to the railroad companies. in recognition of the favorable terms allowed.

'It is preferable, in the interest of the city and for the convenience of the public, that the style of ticket adopted should be simple and plain, so that no troublesome technicalities need be imposed upon purchasers.

If the city of St. Louis will enact a law prohibit ing the sale or misuse of nontransferable tickets the railroad companies will be enabled to make the very low rates and to adopt a simple style of ticket. If this law is not enacted the rates may not be so favorable and the style of ticket adopted will be so complicated that purchasers will have more difficulty in traveling.

It is obvious, therefore, that the enactment of a law prohibiting the misuse of low-rate tickets is essential. Very low rates would draw large crowds to the city, and in all probability would preassure the financial success of the World's Fair. St. Louis cannot derive benefits from the Exposition unless the attendance is large. The law is needed not exsistance with some remark to the effect that "he" only for protecting the companies against abuses

but for affording conveniences to travelers, for aiding the World's Fair and for helping St. Louis.

What objection could be made against the pro posed law is not plain. Such low-rate tickets would be sold on condition that they would not be transferable, and the low rates are made not only to increase passenger traffic on the railroads but as a favor to the city and the Exposition. The nontransferable condition is made not only to protect

the railroad companies but to protect purchasers. That the railroad companies and the purchasers are entitled to this protection is a fair proposition. In fact, it is more than likely that the court, without a special law, would protect the interested par ties against unscrupulous ticket speculators. But a special ordinance will give greater protection, and, what is more important, will give certainty of the very lowest rates and will permit adoption of a simple style of ticket.

Upon reconvening January 5, the Municipal Assembly should immediately pass the bill to prohibit the misuse of nontransferable tickets. This is in every sense a public measure, and has, moreover, every indication of being a just measure.

Yesterday's Chicago fire stands almost unrivaled in the horror of its distressing details. Five or six hundred dead at one time and place is in itself a calamity of startling and terrible proportions; but when the related facts in the present instance are considered there can be no human expression quite adequate to measure the feeling of pity that goes out to the dead and their surviving kinsmen. Out of the catastrophe of the Iroquois Theater comes quickly the lesson that must be again studied by managers of public assembly halls, Neither money nor pains can be spared in planning for the safety of the thousands who annually gather in these places. City officials having in hand the inspection and supervision of halls and theaters are no less responsible, for the laws are adequate and of easy interpretation. It may be said, too, that mere compliance with the regulacons providing exits and escape devices is not sufficient to meet this great burden of responsibility to the public. Some form of discipline in the conduct of the employed force in every assembly hall and theater should be added. Had the asbestos curtain at the Iroquois Theater yesterday not failed of its purpose, through a "hitch" that speaks of bad management somewhere, this morning's sad story might have remained untold.

Not long ago the Russians committed atrocities at Kishinev which startled the world. The Russians have ever persecuted the Jews, and have paid slight heed to protests. But now Russia desires to borrow money, a large sum of it, from the Rothschilds. It is said that the Rothschilds will refuse to make the loan. This would be but justice. Disraell ought to be alive to be at the same time thwarting Russia and grimly smiling when the Czar's Ministers find their financial operations blocked by the power of

If Conscience Fund will make good the bad debts of a few others in this community, their addresses can be supplied on short notice by anybody who's been fool enough to lend without security.

Russia's imperial policy seems to have run plump into England's schemes of aggrandizement. Of course, this somewhat modifies Russia's interpretation of its "rights" in Manchuria.

Mr. J. P. Porter reads a paper on the "Psycholo gy of the English Sparrow." He probably noted that the sparrow is a Rooseveltian bird, not inclined toward race suickle.

The protoplasmic theory, having to do with a colloidal solution, or the paramoccium, is sufficiently clear to be made an issue in the coming presidential

Republican "soreheads" organize a new harmony club to put Tom Akins out of business. This is in line with the eternal amenities of Missouri politics

With cotton passing 14 cents and most of the

profits going to the fellows in the pool there ought to be a corresponding activity in hemp. The man who put the chinch bug out of business

is at the scientists' convention. Boll weevil next, "The machinery of the future will be hitched to

radium," declares a scientist. Whoa. What a nice feed the Chicago bacilli will have

when we dump our garbage in the river. A three-ringed circus is as nothing to three revo lutions in the island of San Domingo.

Russia is likely to give Japan a little jar-it will not be a loving cup.

RECENT COMMENT

Philadelphia Public Ledger.

If "Parsifal" had been presented without any previous ture, simply as an ordinary incident to the musical seacon, it is very doubtful if it would make any such imon as is made by "Die Walkuere" and "Tristar and Isolde. It has little or none of their human interest, and its

econdite symbolism is of a kind that makes large de ands upon the sympathetic imagination of the spectaor. It can easily be understood, therefore, how the cenic elaboration and pictorial magnificence of the New ork production, while commanding admiration, may 'all to renew in the minds of many hearers the impredon which the music chiefly made upon them when they eard it under different conditions. But, however this nd now there remain no unconquered fields, no untrie ensations. There are, to be sure, many new operas of value yet unheard in this country, but they would no xcite discussion. For the "regular season," we mus 'all back on such novelties as "Rigoletto."

Acquiring Civilization.

News Item: Trenton, N. J., Dec. 28.—Long Gee, a Chinaman, askes the Court of Chancery for a divorce from his wife, Long Toy, giving as cause her elopement with one Bing Chung. Little Long Toy, celestial and coy, Was the wife of the honest Long Gee, And as gladsome and merry as ever could be

Till a Ching named Bing Came along with his song And lured her away from Long Gee. Thus the beautiful Toy of Long Gee came to be The pretty plaything of a villainous Ching.

Nashville American. Party organization is necessary to party success Party discipline is essential to effective organization. But honest party loyalty does not demand approval of manifest error or wrong, or defense of dis-honest men or methods. The intervals between campaigns afford proper opportunities for free and frank criticism of party errors or weaknesses and honest, courageous discussion of mistakes of the past and policies of the future. But the blind, buli-headed, unthinking, intolerant Democrat who keeps his eyes shut and his mouth open denounces such dis cussion as high treason and those who engage in it as damraddikles.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. The first shot fired on the isthmus may be confidently

MRS. LINDSAY GIVES COTILLON FOR THE MISSES TAYLOR.

Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Francis Entertain for Their Youngest Son,

Tom Francis—Society Notes and Personal Mr. and Mrs. D. R. Francis Entertain for Their Youngest Son, Mrs. Selwyn Edgar, Sr.'s, Reception a Notable Event of the Day-



Who will make her first formal appearance in some Mrs. Lyle. society to-day at a reception given by

Mrs. A. Jackson Lindsay and Miss Linday gave a cotilion last night at their Lindell boulevard residence for the Misses Jane and Maria Taylor, granddaughters of Mrs. Lindsay and debutantes this winter. Lieutenant Lindsay stationed at Fort Snelling, St. Paul, arrived home yesterday morning on a short leave and assisted in receiving with the ladies of his family. Miss Nanette Paschall was another guest who made a hurried trip for this affair, reaching St. Louis from Scattle in time for the dance.

Twenty-four couples danced the cotilon, which was led by Arthur Wear and Charles Gamble. There were twelve figures, six of them being favored with butterflies, wands, flower garlands and orders of various kinds. The souvenir favor was a paper knife of burnt wood.

The house was trimmed in holiday greens, and dancing enjoyed in all the lower rooms which are provided with hardwood floors. Mrs. Lindsay received in black velvet and point lace, Mirs Lindsay in white satin and the Misses Taywhite satin and tulle, with decoration of flowers.

A very few of the married set were in-vited to see the dancing-Mr. and Mrs. Hirschberg, Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Maffitt, Mrs Peugnet, and Mr. and Mrs. D B

Francis. Some of the dancers were: loward O'Fallon

Hugh Jones, Robert Brookings, Panin, Prince Saim Sulm,

Walter McKittrick, M. Vincent, Ralph McKittrick, M. Boufve, MRS. EDGAR'S RECEPTION.

Mrs. Selwyn Edgar, Sr.'s reception yesterday afternoon was a large entertainment. About 500 women called during the hours. Mrs. Edgar received with Mrs. Eugene Williams, wearing a cream lace robe over chiffon. Mrs. Williams was in black gauze and much lace. Mrs. Selwyn Edgar, Jr., was to have assisted at the reception, but was unable to appear, owing to some slight injuries received on Christmas night from a blazing tree. Her sown caught fire and burned her arms. Mrs. Clifford, Mrs. Franklin Armstrong, Mrs. Corwin Spencer, Mrs. E. W. Paramore and Mrs. John Milliken were without their hats. At the refreshment table, which was done in red, were Miss Rena Dula, Miss Ruth Spencer, Mrs. Glenn Hill and Miss Adele Armstrong. Miss Belva Dula and Miss Francez Jones served the punch.

In the evening about fifty young perment. About 500 women called during the In the evening about fifty young per-sons, mainly friends of Miss Belva Dula, were entertained with an informal dance

were entertained with at the Edgar mansion. THEATER PARTY.

Some West End young persons gave heater party at the Olympic Tuesday. After enjoying the play supper was serve at the home of the chaperons. The party

Misses
Stella Wade,
Ada Brown, Florence Quigley. Alice Richey. Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Reichn

Mr. and Mrs. David R. Francis gave a youngest son, Tom Francis, and the school girl and boy set that is being much enter-tained during the holidays.

The marriage of Miss Maud Keiley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Kelley No. 5140 Page boulevard, to Robert M

POEMS WORTH KNOWING.

A LITTLE WHILE.

BY HORATIUS BONAR.

Horatius Bonar was born in Dlinburgh De cember 19, 1808, and died there July 21, 1859. He was educated at the university there. He was ordained and in 1866 became paster of the Chalmers Memorial Free Church in Edinburgh.



EYOND the smiling and the weeping I shall be soon; Beyond the waking and the sleeping, Beyond the sowing and the reaping. I shall be soon.

> Sweet hope! Lord, tarry not, but come.

Beyond the blooming and the fading I shall be soon; Beyond the shining and the shading, Beyond the hoping and the dreading, Love, rest and home! Sweet hope!

Lord, tarry not, but come. Beyond the rising and the setting I shall be soon; Beyond the calming and the fretting. Beyond remembering and forgetting. I shall be soon. Love, rest and home! Sweet hope!

Lord, tarry not, but come. Beyond the gathering and the strowing I shall be soon; Beyond the chbing and the flowing, Beyond the coming and the going, I shall be soon Love, rest and home!

Lord, tarry not, but come. Beyond the parting and the meeting I shall be soon; Beyond the farewell and the greeting. I shall be soon. Love, rest and home!

Lord, tarry not, but come. Beyond the frost-chain and the fever I shall be soon: Beyond the rock-waste and the river, Beyond the ever and the never, I shall be soon.

Love, rest and home! Sweet hope! Lord, tarry not, but con



Kinley took place last evening at hafter 6 o'clock at the home of the brid Miss Jessie Kelley was maid of hos and John McKinley the best man. To ceremony was performed by the Revers William Elmer.

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Daues, No. 300 So Beaumont street, received their friends

Adolph Sandberger of Texarkana will take place this evening at the home of the bride's parents, No. 302 Laclede avenue.

The marriage of Miss Ann Louise Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pett Brown, to Samuel Harold Baer of New York City took place last night, the New York City took place last night, the ceremony being performed by the Reverend Mr. Newell. Only the immediate families of the bride and bridegroom were present. A reception followed. The bride and bridegroom departed last night for a tour through the South. Bay McLaughlin of Minneapolis was best man. Miss Emilie Brown, sister of the bride, was madd of honor and the Misses Mabel Halliwell. New York; Susie Doerr, St. Louis, and Luclile Brown, Sedalia, Mo., were the bridesmaids.

PERSONAL MENTION. Miss Laura Siegfried and Miss Ferrell Buchanan will receive from 3 until 5 o'clock on New Year's Day at No. 1817 Ruiger street.

Mrs. Bransford Clarke of Kentucky is visiting her parents, the Reverend and Mrs. Reed, in Marion place.

The Misses Elia Rogers and Dena Div-ney will receive on New Year's Day, at the home of Miss Rogers, No. 201 Caro-line.

Miss Louise Mathias and Miss Henrietta Kietzker will receive their friends on New Year's at Miss Henrietta Bamber-ger's. No. 4121 Shenandoah.

The Poster Girls are preparing to enter-tain their friends to-morrow at the resi-dence of the Misses Mae and Blanch King, No. 1315 Clinton steet. The young ladles are the Misses Katherine Morris, Lillian Johnson and Lillian Breitbeil.

Mrs. A. E. Bernet will have her first at home New Year's afternoon and evening at No. 5315 Cabanne avenue.

The Misses Sadle Johnson, Marie Rai-thel, Mintye Lucke and Mabel McCane will entertain their friends on New Year's Day at the home of Miss Johnson, No. 435 Finney avenue, between the hours of 2 and 5

Miss Minnie Jacobson will receive at her home, No. 5125 Fairmount avenue, as-sisted by her cousin, Miss Eva Jacobson of Little Rock, Ark., and Miss Corinns

T. Clyde Crossman of Clayton has gone South on his annual holiday tour. He is now visiting at Eureka Springs, Ark.

Mrs. Alice W. Lyle announces the en-gagement of her daughter. Edith, to J. Grant Smith of St. Louis, the wedding to take place on January 29.

The Misses Grace Boppert, Lilli Wenzlick and Lily Post have issued car for an "at home" at No. 112 Lemp as nue on New Year's Day, from 4 to 1 The Misses Magner will hold a recep-tion to-morrow at their home, No. 568 Von Versen avenue, between the hours of 4 and 8 and 8 and 10. Miss Julia Heine will assist.

Mrs. Mary L. Leach of Detroit, Mich. is in St. Louis attending the scientists' con-vention, and is stopping at Hotel Beers.

The Misses Tessie Haines, Margie Beard and May Blong will receive to-morrow from 3 to 5 and from 7 to 10 at No. 138 Ridge avenue. The Misses Sue Bynn, Delia Vaughan and Florence Waters will receive New Year's Day at the home of Miss Josephine Few, No. 463 Delmar boulevard.

Miss Emily Loire of No. 2314 Morp street will be at home to her friends of New Year's Day. Miss Margaret Creveling will receive New Year's Day at her country home. So will be assisted by Miss Beas Peters.

Miss Edna Tobin of No. 2024 U sity street, assisted by her sister. Sylvina Tobin, will be at home to friends from 2 o'clock until 7 p. 2

Miss Josie Condon of No. 202 Howard street, assisted by her friend, Miss Clare

Miss Jennie Stein of Marshall, Ten, is he guest of her uncle and aunt, Mr. and Ara, M. M. Marx of No. 1377 Union boule

The Misses Winifred and Isabelle The Misses Esther Temm, Johns, Hattle and Ida Connell ceive January 1, 3 to 5, at No. 198 street,

Miss Virginia Craft has returned from college for the holidays and is visiting her parents Mr. and Mrs. F. X. Craft of Hotel Beers.

The Misses Sauerdrunn will recei friends on New Year's Day at I Raymond ave., assisted by Miss

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

TO-DAY IN ST. LOUIS. From The Republic, January 1, 1879.
At the annual meeting of the Western Commercial Travelers' Ased as officers: H. R. Mac Gross, F. H. Johnson, J. S. Brown, A. H. Weber, J. D. A. H. Weber, J. P. Wood, W. I. Mc-Bride, W. D. McClanahan, Willi Finke, George C. Newberry, J. W. Brown, H. C. Tatum, D. Nair, J. J. Glimore and T. J. Chewning. Addresses were delivered by E. O. Stanard, the Revered by E. O. Stanard, the Rever-Brown, H. C. Tatum, H. C. Mc end George A. Lofton and Pre-dent Macdonald.

John Jay Knox, Comptro the Currency, was a witness fore the Federal Grand Jury. A valise was stolen from E. nest, who arrived on the ster Centennial from New Orleans. Colonel Luke Murrin of Ch

guest of John Finn. He fo Thomas P. and William J. H sell were restrained by Judge Dil-lon from erecting a livery stable on · Locust street near Ewing aver

Clerks in the City Recorder's of-fice presented resolutions and a handsome gold-mounted ebony to D. H. MacAdam, the re-Recorder. · Nicholas Leo clerks who paid a tribute of r Wilton, W. T. Wylle, Dan Ph George M. Chartrand, John J. eron, Mark R. Charts

Erastus Wells subs he Omaha extension of the Louis, Kansas City and A Railroad. John R. Lio chairman of the comm project amounted to \$3,000.
Charles T. Noian was appoint Deputy Coroner, to take the professional appointment of Herman Pro-W. E. Richards